

REVIEWS OF BOOKS.

A MANUAL OF OPERATIVE SURGERY. By SIR FREDERICK TREVES, Bart. New Edition, revised by the Author and JONATHAN HUTCHINSON, JR. In two volumes, 8vo. Philadelphia and New York: Lea Brothers & Co., 1903.

This book, upon its first publication, was reviewed at length in the *ANNALS OF SURGERY* of March, 1892. The expression of favor which was awarded it by the reviewer of that date has been justified by the popularity with which the profession in general has continued to regard it ever since, notwithstanding the conspicuous merit of other works, occupying the same field, which have also appeared since its publication. After a lapse of twelve years, one is naturally anxious to see what changes its author has felt himself compelled to make in his effort to keep pace with current progress. The periodical literature of these years has been full of novel operative suggestions, and the very great widening of the scope of operative effort which has also marked these years must have taught many lessons that had not yet been learned in 1892; so we turn to this new edition with the expectation of finding in it the matured judgment of the recognized present leader of English surgery upon the operative problems that have occupied the surgical mind during the past twelve years. This expectation requires but little, if any, modification when we read that the main part of the work of revision has been carried out by Mr. Hutchinson; for, although the executive hand has been that of the junior surgeon, we may still assume that the responsible directing head has been that of the senior. Evidence of one of the most characteristic changes in the operative surgery of the period appears as a prelude even to the title-page itself in the large frontispiece, bearing the legend, "A

Modern Operating Theatre ready for Use," which is a picture of one of the operating theatres of the London Hospital. Mr. Treves, in his first edition (Chapter III), said, "Of the operating theatres and operating wards of hospitals it is not necessary to speak." In the new edition, however, several pages of text are devoted to a description of the operating theatre depicted in the frontispiece, to which are added many other cuts showing details of arrangements and apparatus. The change, of which we accept this as one of the evidences, is the increasing tendency of all important operative surgical work to seek hospital conditions for its performance, *pari passu* with which have gone the efforts of hospital authorities to perfect the surroundings in which this work is to be done. Another change in the beginning of the book attracts our attention, and makes a pleasant impression. It is the elision of the words "scrofula" and "scrofulous" and "strumous" from the book, and the substitution therefor of the words "tuberculosis" and "tuberculous."

In the first edition, mention of the "steam spray" could not be omitted. It had to be discussed even if only for an explanation of the reasons for abandoning its use. In this new edition it is not even mentioned. The chapters on anaesthetics have been omitted altogether. It gave something of a wrench to our pre-conceived notions of what might be considered as an important operative preliminary not to find any mention of it in the work; neither ether, chloroform, nor anaesthesia are to be found in the index; but neither also do we find any mention of shock as a postoperative condition, nor of the operation of intravenous saline infusion to combat it. Evidently the authors have not considered these subjects as coming within the scope of their work; it would seem, however, that they ought to have a place in a reasonably complete manual of operative surgery.

The chapters on ligation of arteries remain without material change. That department of surgery has not grown as much as some others during the past decennium.

In some of the illustrations of amputations and excisions, the surgeon's cuffs and coat-sleeves, introduced in preantiseptic days, are still in evidence, having escaped the attention of the reviser (pp. 271, 424, 462, 467, 584, 617, 618, 665), copies from Farabœuf.

In the chapters devoted to abdominal operations and to hernia we find the greatest changes; not that any more space is devoted to these subjects in these volumes than formerly, but the substance of the chapters is quite rewritten. Much of that which was on trial fifteen years ago has been definitely accepted, or rejected, or replaced by something better since, so that the present writing well represents the opinion and practice of the best surgeons of to-day. Fewer different methods are described; more attention is given to the principles that should guide the surgeon, and more frequently a definite judgment is rendered as to what in the opinion of the writer is *the* method of procedure.

A much fuller consideration of the surgery of the appendix vermiciformis is given than in the former edition, as is natural, considering the increased importance in the surgical world which has become attached to that anatomical member.

The chapter on excision of the breast in carcinoma has been rewritten. This well illustrates the change in surgical practice that has taken place, and the readiness of the writers to change their opinions and practice. In 1892, the writer said, "The heroic evacuation of the axilla which involves the laying bare of the whole of the axillary vein, the removal of the fatty tissue of the entire space, and the exposure of the upper ribs, has nothing to recommend it." In the preceding paragraph it had been said, "the glands may be most conveniently removed with the fingers"! We detect in this phraseology a lack of sympathy with the teaching, then beginning to come into vogue, that the utmost thoroughness in the systematic removal of possible minute foci of infection in the axilla should be a part of every operation for carcinoma of the breast. But in the present edition this dictum

is accepted in no uncertain terms. After a very just and full statement of the very general axillary gland infection that attends carcinoma of the breast, it is said that "excision of a cancerous breast should always include excision of the axillary lymphatic glands." No slighting allusions now to "heroic" evacuations of the axilla, but an added statement that "if the supraclavicular glands are suspected they also should be removed."

It is not necessary to multiply further examples of the admirable manner in which this revised edition has been made to reflect the most approved work of to-day. The work is more than a hand-book; it is in two sizable volumes; there is much of history and criticism in it; and it will be sure to command the interest and confidence of surgeons for a long time.

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A MANUAL OF SURGICAL DIAGNOSIS. By JAMES BERRY, B.S., F.R.C.S., Surgeon to and Lecturer on Surgery at The Royal Free Hospital; formerly Surgical Registrar and Demonstrator of Anatomy, of Operative Surgery and of Practical Surgery at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son & Co., 1904.

This compendious book offers its readers eminently practical information of the whys and wherefores essential to making a surgical diagnosis.

The subject-matter is treated of in three parts. The first part is devoted to a consideration of the general principles underlying surgical diagnosis. It opens up with remarks bearing on the taking of a history, and the various modes of physical examination accessory towards establishing the diagnosis.

In the third part attention is directed to the diagnosis of the diseases of the various organs. A few chapters are devoted to the differential diagnosis of a particular symptom-complex, as, "Inability to Open the Mouth, Dysphagia, Abdominal Swelling, Intestinal Obstruction, Pyuria and Hæmaturia, and Aneurism."